

Overall

AVERILL FAMILY

his company was dismounted for tactical purposes. He spent the spring tramping through woods and mosquitoey swamps trying to find Indians. One result of his efforts in the military, and those of his companions, is that after that it was safe for the Bounty Lands to be settled.

The Averill Family must have moved there right away, for on 7 March 1833 his sister Charlotte Baker Averill married Nicholas Royal Teas in McDonough County, hitherto part of the Bounty Lands.

By then Philo was 65 years old and Rebecah 58. Most of the children were grown, though Norman and Allen were still in their teens. Details of the family's experiences in this new home will be told in the next chapter, about Great-great Grandfather Norman Chancellor Averill, though Philo and Rebecah lived there another eleven years. McDonough County was a primitive place when they arrived there but very pleasant, with nice Methodist neighbors and good friends to talk to.

The mother, Rebecah (Rice) Averill, died 9 September 1844, age 69. Philo died a month later on 22 October 1844, age 76. They did get to enjoy some of their grandchildren, including the baby born in 1843 whom Philo named for his hero, William Henry Harrison Averill. Many more grandchildren were born after they died.

Children of Philo and first wife, Betsy (Boardman) Averill:

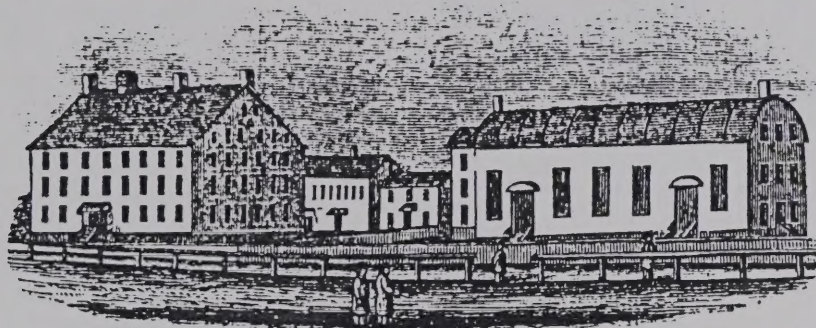
Malissa	?1789	m. ca. 1809	Timothy Haskell
Orilla	?1790	-	Became a Shaker

Children of Philo and second wife, Charlotte (Baker) Averill:

Rowlen Green	?1792	ca. 1812	Name unknown
Betsy	?1794	-	Became a Shaker
Electa	?1796	ca 1813	Nehemiah Hurd

Children of Philo and third wife, Rebecah (Rice) Averill:

Henry James Cropsey	20 Jul 1809	10 Sep 1840	Huldah Ann Warren
		1 Jan 1861	Sarah Liggett
Charlotte Baker	Feb 1811	7 Mar 1833	Nicholas Royal Teas
Eliza D.	1813	10 Mar 1839	Levi Warren
+Norman Chancellor	11 Jan 1815	1 Aug 1844	Martha E, Clayton
Allen Wiley	4 Feb 1817	7 Dec 1847	Sarah Clayton
		20 Apr 1853	Mary Ann Delbridge



Shaker Buildings in New Lebanon.

New Lebanon, Shaker village, called by its inhabitants the village of the "*Millennial Church*," is two and a half miles S. of the spring, on the western side of the Taghkanic mountain, and contains about six hundred inhabitants. The annexed view shows one of their dwellings (containing a *family* of 150 persons,) and their meeting-house, which was erected in 1823. This place of worship is somewhat singular in its construction. It is eighty feet long by sixty-five wide, all in one room, without beams or pillars, having a domical roof covered with tin; and a porch thirty-four by twenty-seven feet, roofed and covered the same way. The building is of wood, but the foundation and flights of steps are of marble.

"This edifice," says a visiter, "stands in a beautiful grass plat, in the centre of the village. There are no seats in the house, except for spectators of their worship. Their stone walls and other fences are constructed with the utmost regularity and precision, and their gateposts are of massive marble columns, of many tons weight. They manufacture a great variety of articles for sale, which are remarkable for their neatness and durability;

This is probably the Shaker Community where two of Philo Averill's oldest children lived. In 1800, he and his children were living in this same county, in New York, where the Shaker movement was very powerful, this being the world headquarters. The community at this location was founded in 1787, though this is a view as it would have looked in 1823.

-from "Historical Collections of the State of New York" page 120, section on Columbia County. - J. W. Barber et al, Tuttle, printed 1841.

This is probably the Sharer Community where two of Emilio Averill's oldest children lived. In 1900, he and his children were living in this same county, in New York, where the Sharer movement was very powerful, this being the world headquarters. The community at this location was founded in 1937, though this is a view as it would have looked in 1923.

VICTOR W. BERNHARD, M.D.

Historical Collection of the State of New York, as a 120, section on Columbia County. - J. W. Barber et al. Testis.

258-4610

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53226
8700 WEST WISCONSIN AVENUE

MARQUETTE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

DIVISION OF SURGERY

AVERILL FAMILY

In 1785, the Shakers built their first meeting house at **Mount Lebanon**, New Lebanon, New York. The communal society established there became the model for all other Shaker communities, and at its peak was the largest of the Shaker groups in America. Continuously occupied since its founding, Mount Lebanon is a showcase of Shaker architecture, and the property with its twenty-six original buildings is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Several restored buildings with displays of finely crafted Shaker artifacts are open for visitors who may also stroll among the herb and vegetable gardens. Workshops in traditional Shaker crafts, special events, and lectures take place throughout the season which runs from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, 9:30 to 5 daily. Through Oct. 1, Friday through Sunday. Other times by appointment. Mount Lebanon Shaker Village, P.O. Box 628, New Lebanon, NY 12125; (518) 794-9500.



2. First Shaker Meetinghouse in New Lebanon
Watercolor by Benson John Lossing, dated 18 August 1856. By that year the building, which served as the meetinghouse from 1785 to 1824, had been moved and converted into a seed house. (Courtesy the Huntington Library, San Marino, California.)



Mount Lebanon Shaker Village,
New Lebanon, New York.

Top:
From page 35-
"The Shaker
Experience in
America" by
Stephen J. Stein,
(1992) Yale Univ.
Press.

Page 27 of that
book mentions a
lady named Hannah
Cogswell as one
of the very first
Shakers. (Philo
Averill's mother
was a Cogswell.)

Left:
Feb 1993 issue of
"Early American
Life" magazine
has an article on
the Shakers.
This was from
page 14.

AVERILL FAMILY

Here's to surveying, the occupation of at least five generations of our Averill Forefathers! The picture shows how Philo would have looked, surveying in 1815.



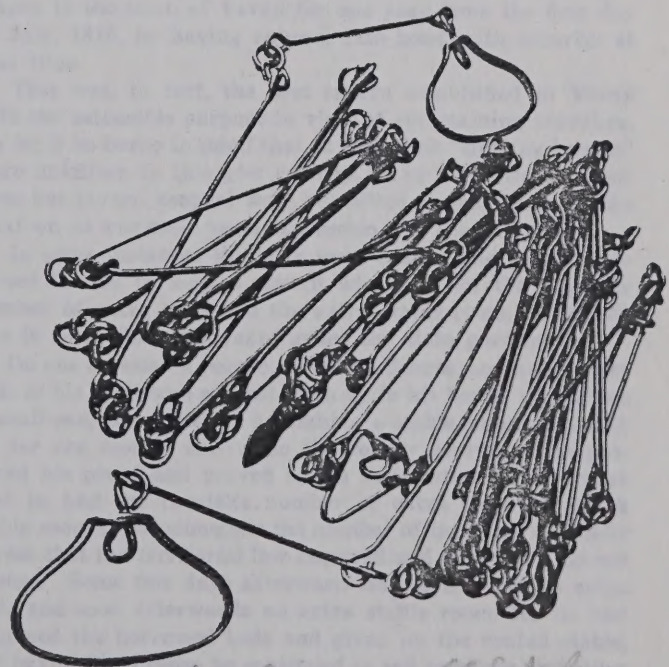
(1850 tin-type)



The chains were 4 rods long

AVERILL FAMILY

Here's to surveying, the occupation of at least five generations of our Averill Forefathers! The picture shows how Philo would have looked, surveying in 1815. *That's the style of clothing popular then.*



(this tintype shows authentic 1815 garb, and instruments)

the chains were 66 feet long about 4 rods

The year 1816 also had its share of sadness. Son Rowlen Green died that year. The grief-stricken young widow took their little son, Charles, the only grandson so far, back to live in New York.

On 4 February 1817 the youngest son, Allen Wiley Averill, was born. The local Methodist minister was named Allen Wiley. and knowing of Philo and Rebecca's penchant for naming children for people they admired, we may infer that they went to the Methodist church even at this early date. Perhaps this was the beginning of Norman's piety which inspired him to study to be a Methodist minister later on.

- - - -

Below is photostatic copy of pages in Indiana Magazine of History, giving an entertaining description of taverns in early Vevay and what they charged. "Uncle" Thomas Armstrong, referred to on the second page, seems to be the man who bought the Averill's real estate when they moved to Illinois.

Early Vevay

By PEERET DUFOUR
(Continued)

The associate judges who were by the laws in force in Indiana territory authorized to transact the county business, such as causing roads and highways to be laid out, opened and kept in repair, and also the appointment of overseers of the roads, and assigning the hands to each supervisor, the appointment of all township officers except justices of the peace were also authorized to transact business pertaining to decedents' estates granting licenses for keeping taverns, and establishing rates to be charged by tavern keepers, had a great deal of business pertaining to opening highways to attend to for the first year or two.

To entitle a person to obtain a license to keep tavern he was compelled by the law to have the petition of a certain number of persons praying the court to grant the license, and also to prove to the satisfaction of the court that he was a person of good moral character, and that he had a certain number of extra beds and extra stable room for keeping horses. If the person applying for such tavern license proved to the satisfaction of the court that he had the character, extra beds and stable room required by the law, license was granted him, and he was required to enter into bond with security to keep his said tavern as required by law.

Philo Averil was the first person to obtain license to keep a tavern in Vevay. He obtained license on the 24th of November, 1814, and on the 25th of November, 1814, the court established the following rates to be charged by tavern keepers in the county of Switzerland. For a meal of victuals, 25 cents; for lodging, per night, 12½ cents; for corn or oats, per gallon, 12½ cents; for horse at hay, per twenty-four hours, 25 cents; for whisky, per half pint, 12½ cents; for peach brandy, per half pint, 12½ cents; for Holland gin, French brandy and Jamaica spirits, 50 cents; for rum, per half pint, 37½ cents; for imported Maderia wine, per

Dufour: Early Vevay

195

quart, \$2; for Switzerland Maderia wine, per quart or bottle, \$1; for Switzerland red wine, per quart or bottle, 75 cents; for domestic gin and cherry bounce, per half pint, 18½ cents.

In March, 1815, license was granted to William Cooper to keep a tavern in Vevay. On the 30th of March, 1815, a license was granted to Peter Harris to keep a tavern at his house in this county, and in November, 1815, he laid out the town of Jacksonville.

In September, 1815, license was granted to "Uncle" Thomas Armstrong (as he was familiarly called), to keep a tavern in the town of Vevay for one year from the first day of July, 1815, he having entered into bond with security at that time.

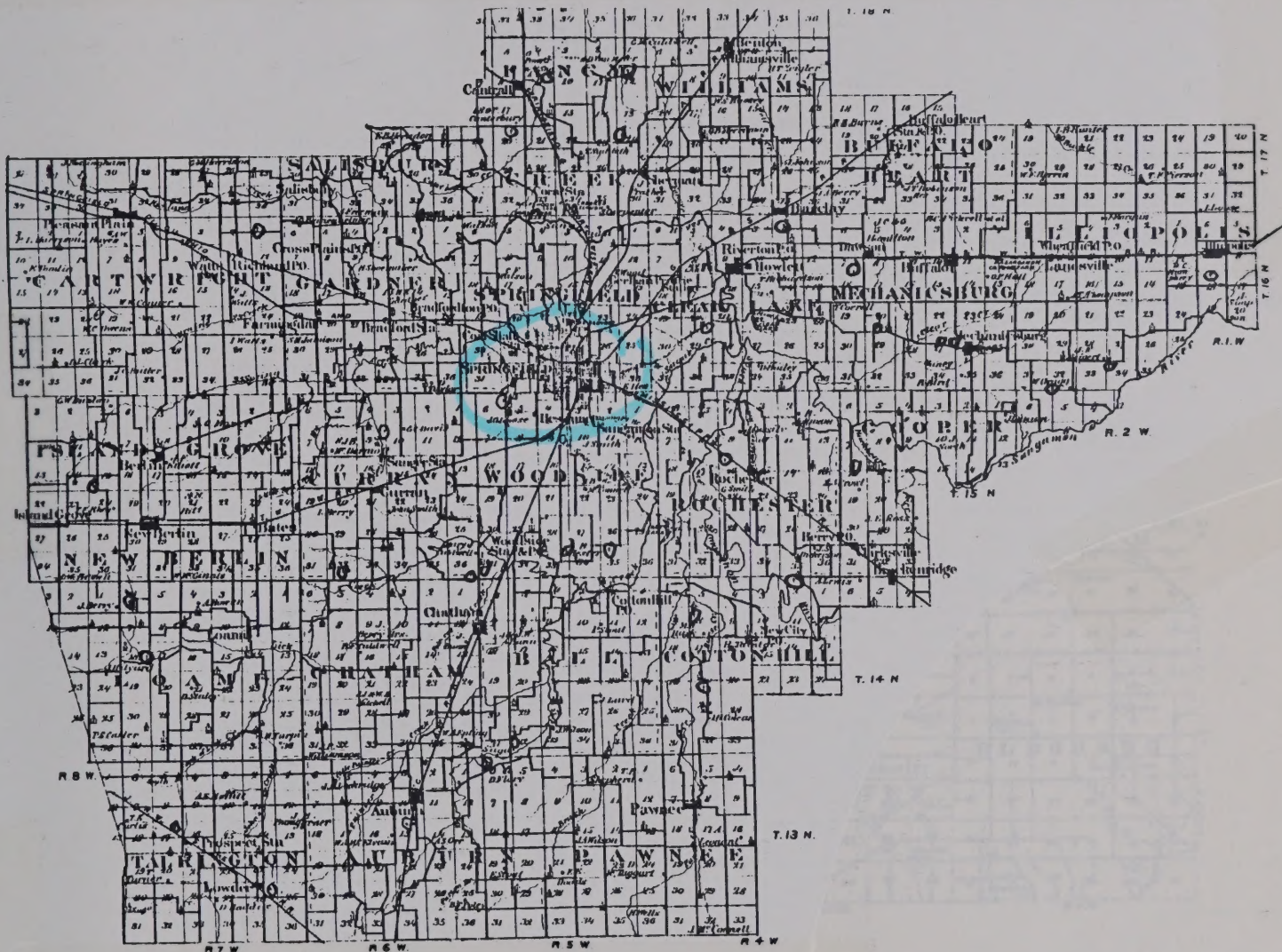
This was, in fact, the first tavern established in Vevay with the ostensible purpose in view of entertaining travelers, for let it be borne in mind that at that time "tippling houses" were unknown in this new country, as by the laws of force, none but tavern keepers were permitted to sell liquor by the small or, as was their usual expression, "by the half pint".

In some instances the laws were evaded and persons obtained license to keep a tavern who had not the requisite number of extra beds and the extra stable room. This law was in force for some years under the state government.

On one occasion a person, to obtain license, borrowed three beds of his neighbors and set them up in his house, which was a small one, and rented of a neighbor a stable on an adjoining lot for one month, and when the county court met he produced his proof and proved to the satisfaction of the court that he had the requisite number of extra beds and extra stable room to accommodate the number of travelers and their horses that the territorial law required and obtained a tavern license. Some few days afterward this tavern had no extra beds and soon afterwards no extra stable room, for he had returned the borrowed beds and given up the rented stable, but having the license he continued to sell spiritous and other liquors by the half pint.

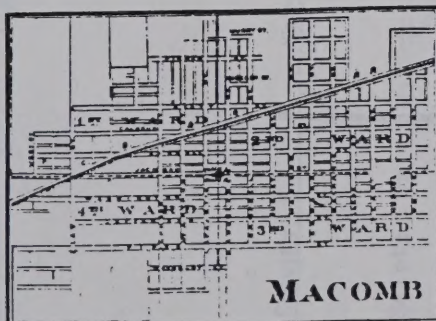
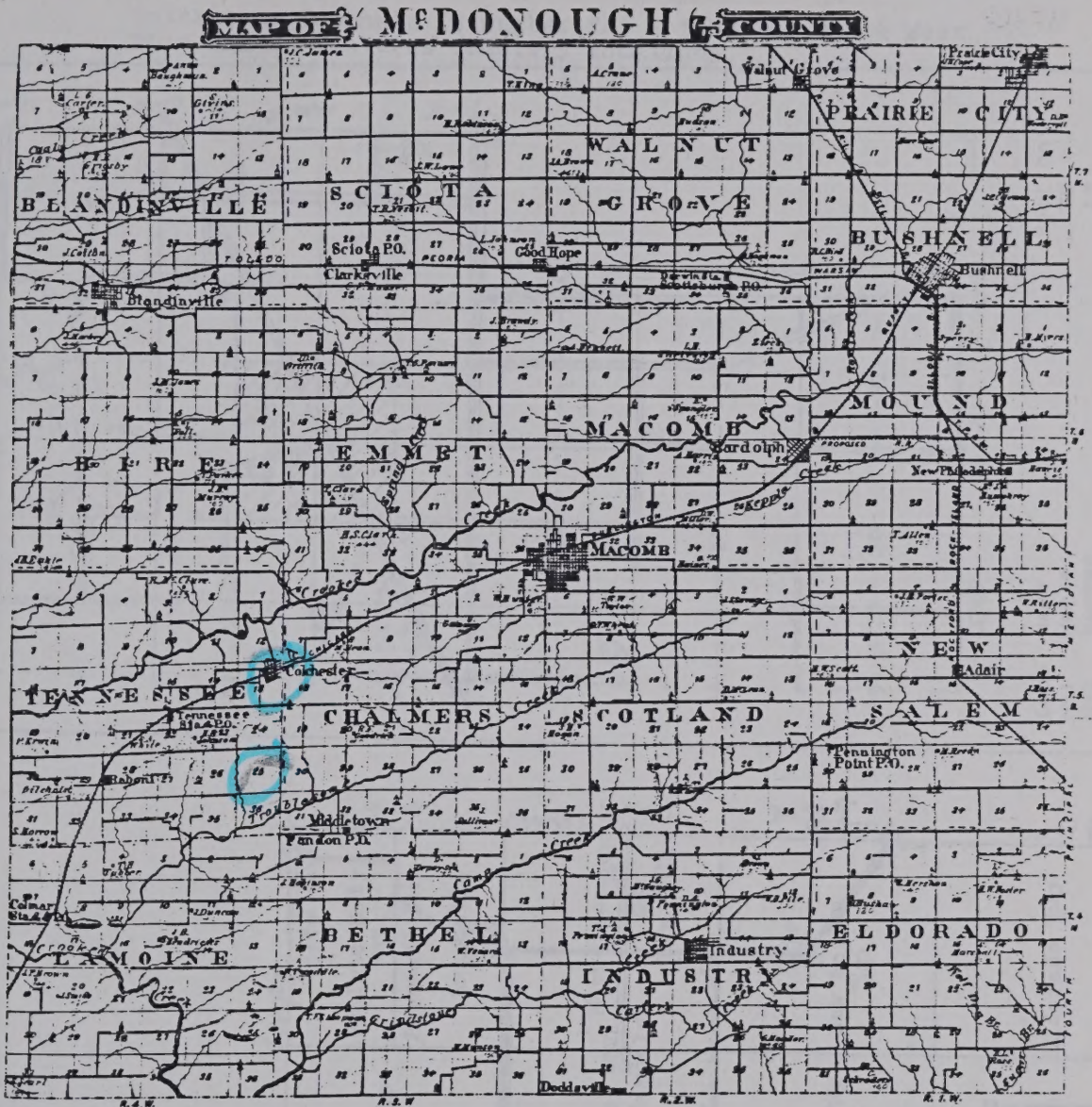
This circumstance is here related to show that the laws relating to the retail of spiritous liquor were violated in those early days of Switzerland county, as well as in the days that are within the remembrance of many of our young men.

MAP OF SANGAMON COUNTY



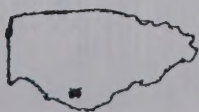
Beginning in 1826, Philo Averill was a faithful voter at the courthouse in Springfield, Illinois, where he left his voting record behind.

In 1830 he ran for Coroner but lost, getting about a third of the votes. The following winter of 1830/1 is known in history as "the winter of the deep snow." From December through February it practically never stopped. "The old settlers marked time from the winter of the deep snow, just as a mother marks time by the birth of a baby." - quote from "Snow Birds - Poll Books of Sangamo County IL 1821-1830."

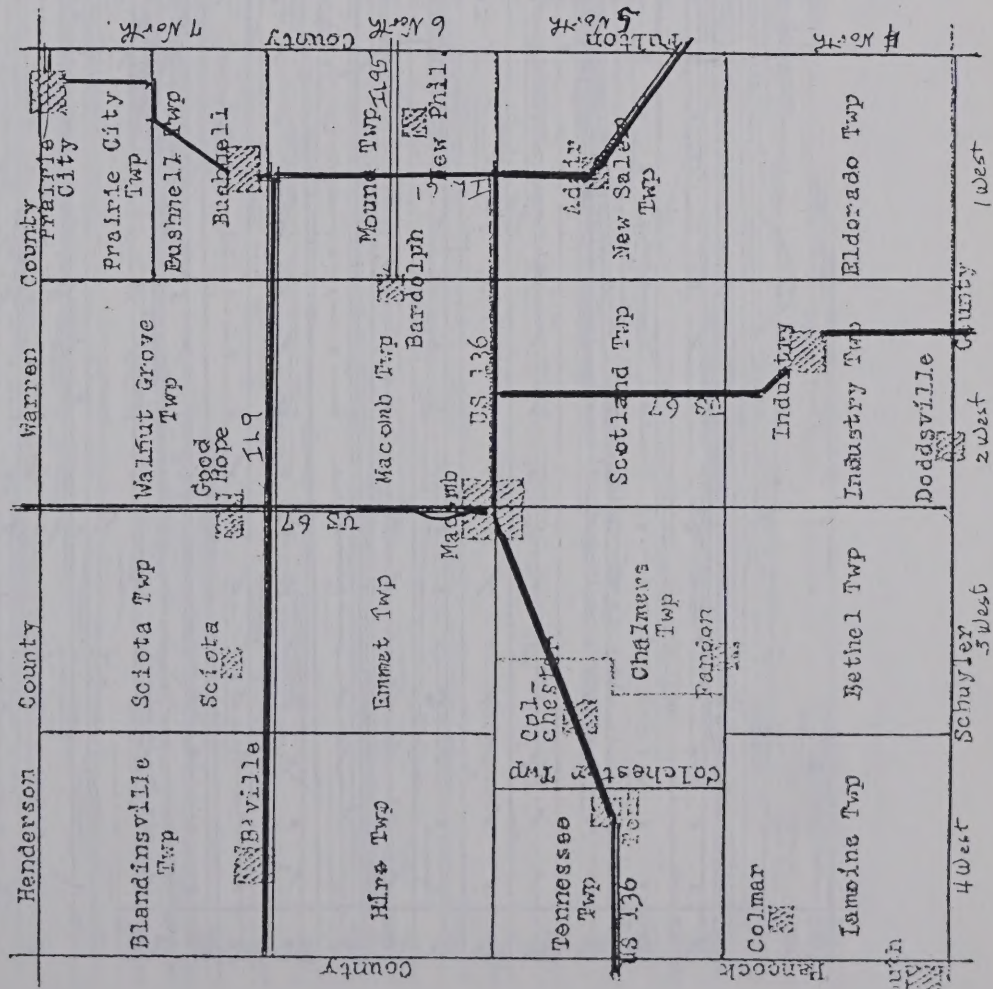


The Averill, Clayton, and Vest Families lived for many years in the Tennessee-Colchester area of McDonough County. (I believe there are still some of them there.) William Willis and Martha (Vest) Clayton's farm was in Sect.25 as were those of their sons, Valentine and W.W., Jr. Many family members are buried there in Bean Cemetery, some Mt. Auburn.

Map drawn in 1876.



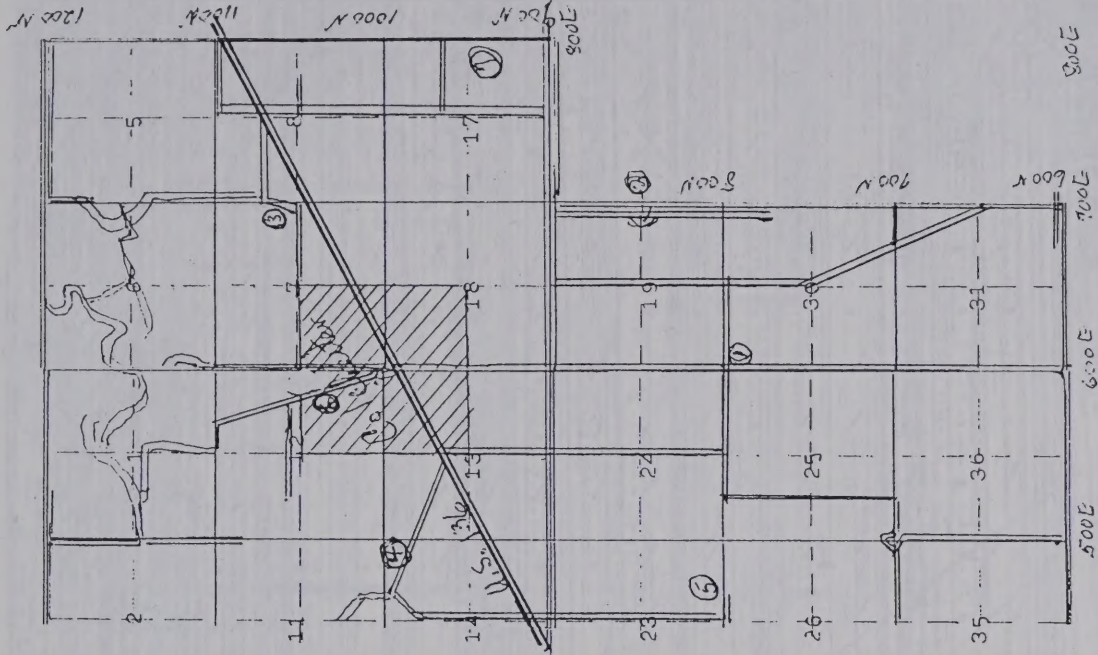
Mc Donough County, Illinois



AVERILL FAMILY

MAPS--17(c)

Colchester Township is number "H" - 5 North, 3 & 4 West
This sketch features cemetery locations.



Code	Name	Section
H-1	Neece	30
H-2	Barber	19
H-3	Bean	7
H-4	Old Colchester or Moore	14
H-5	Lower	23
H-6	Mt. Auburn	12
H-7	Stevens	17

AVERILL FAMILY 1800 US Census, Canaan Township-Columbia Co. New York

Line 12 shows Philo Averill, age between 26 & 45, with one boy under 10, one boy 10-16, two girls under 10 and one girl 10-16, no women.

page
202A

Family	Under 10	10-16	16-20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	75-80	80-85	85-90	90-95	95-100	Total
Philo Averill	1			1		1	1	1												1225
John Averill			3		1		1	1												248
John Averill				1	1	1	1	1												255
John Averill	1		1	1		2	1	1												
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John Averill	1		</																	

AVERILL FAMILY

1800 US Census - Ganaan Township, Columbia County, New York

Microfilm Reel Number _____

1800-1810 CENSUS

SURNAM

State _____

County _____ Date _____

City, Town
or District _____

[illegible]

Microfilm Reel Number _____

1820 CENSUS

State _____

County _____ Date _____

City, Town
or District _____

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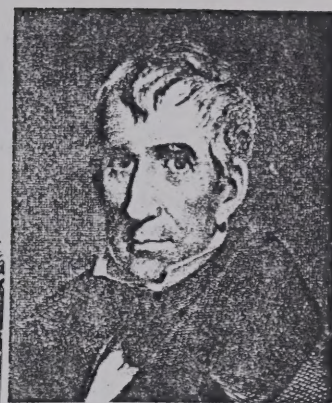
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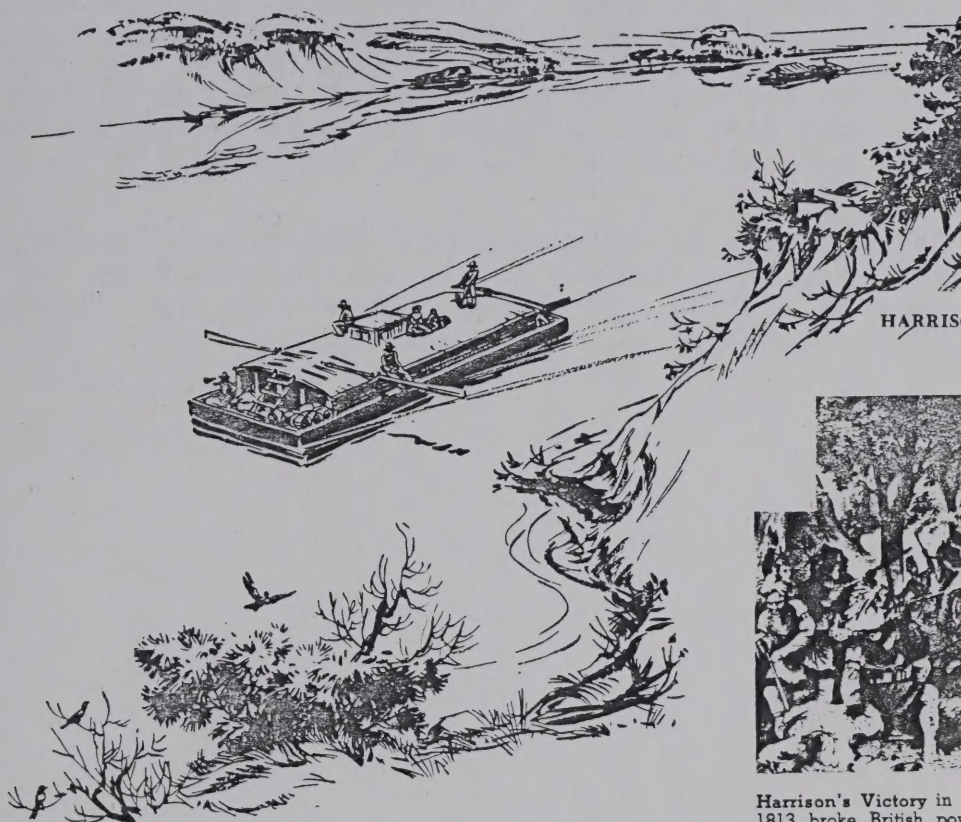
NOTE: 1840 Census lists living Revolutionary Soldiers or their widows. An asterisk may be used to indicate one, or "RS", "fc" is used to indicate man of free color.

AVERILL FAMILY

Philo Averill idolized Gen. William Henry Harrison who later became President, and named a grandson for him.



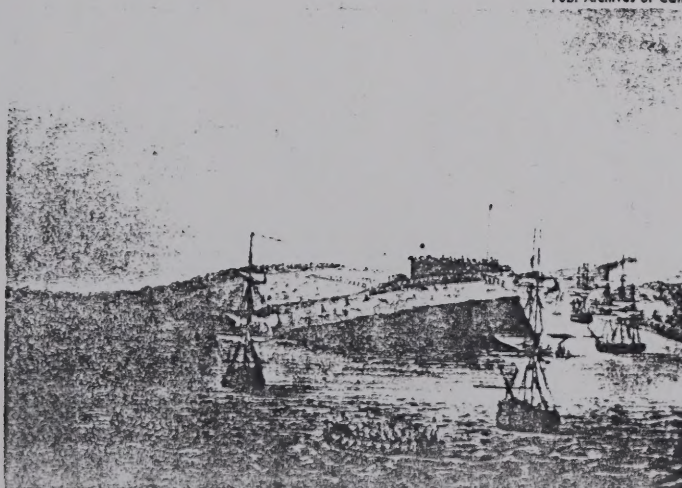
HARRISON. WILLIAM HENRY, 1773-1841,



A flatboat on the Ohio

In the picture below a British force attacks Fort Ontario at Oswego on Lake Ontario in upper New York during the War of 1812. The fort has been preserved as a state memorial.

Pub. Archives of Can.



CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

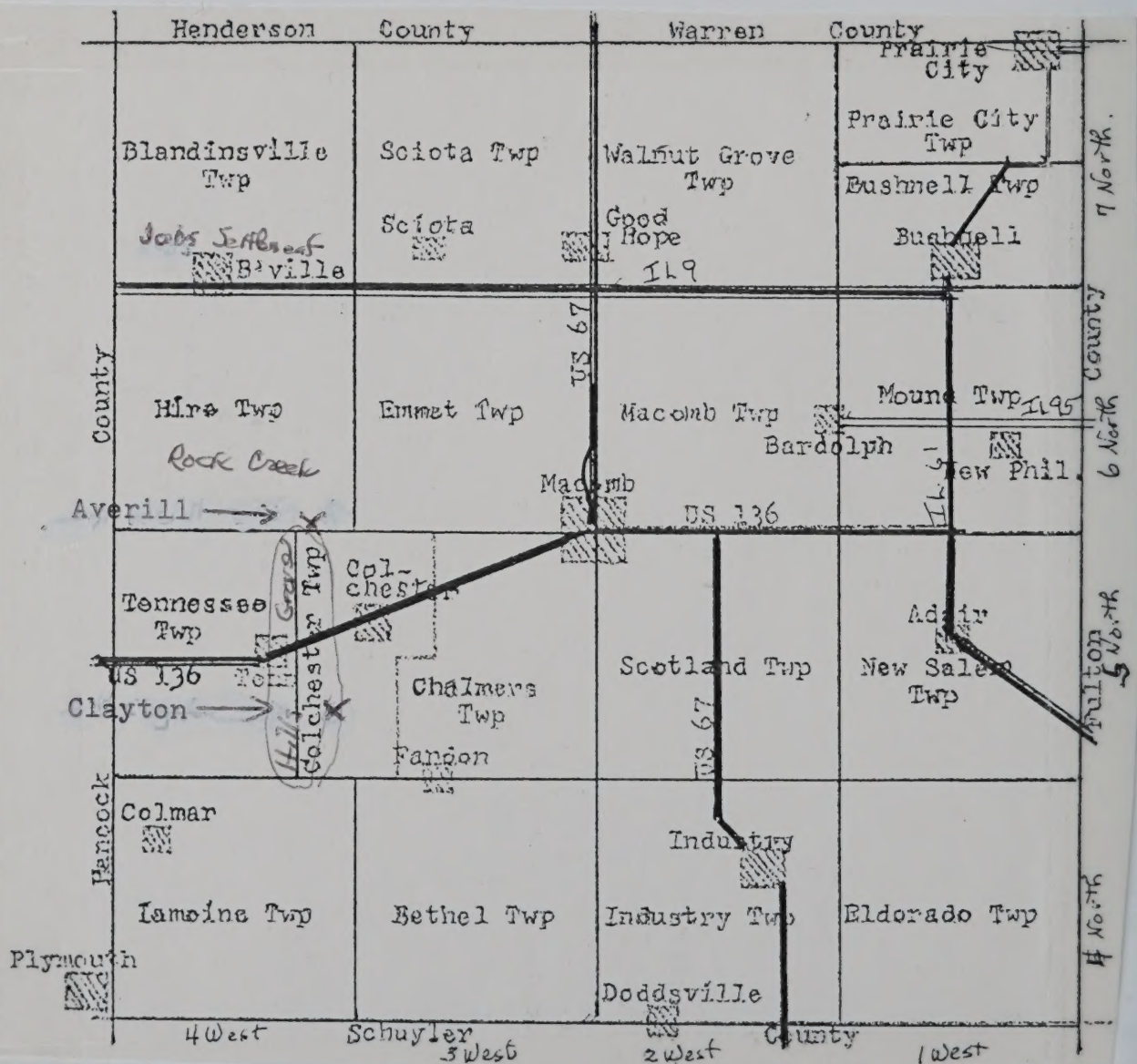
Harrison's Victory in the Battle of the Thames in 1813 broke British power in Northwest Territory



CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Harrison Defeated the Indians led by Tecumseh's brother in the famous Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811

This is a modern diagram of McDonough Co. Desiring to visit the area on the way back to Wisconsin after visiting relatives in Missouri, I took US Highway 136 through Hancock Co. and turned North on US 67 at Macomb after seeing the sights.



Nicholas Averill lived at Ash, Kent.

William + Abigail married at Chipping Norton

The Averills who used the coat of arms lived at Broadway

} Oxfordshire



AVERILL FAMILY

In April 1831 John Baker, a Baptist minister, received a tavern license, paying \$6.50 for it, and a scale of prices for inn-keeping was posted, even lower than prices in Pope Co. and Vevay. He also sold groceries. A few days later he took a partner, Samuel Bogart, a Methodist preacher, and under the name of Bogart, Baker and Company the firm engaged in the sale of dry goods, groceries, whiskey, tobacco, etc. Can you imagine a pair of preachers, of differing denominations, nowadays peddling booze? The days of temperance societies had not yet dawned.

As you will remember, the Sangamon Co. militia had served until the end of May 1832. The governor requested a battalion from McDonough and Warren counties take over in June. Samuel Bogart served as Major. They were mounted, each man furnishing his own horse. They were out for 86 days, each receiving 86¢ per day for man and beast. Now you know the type of man from whom Philo bought the farm.

The reason for telling about Bogart and other neighbors in the various places the Averills lived, is that not only were they neighbors with whom they interacted, but that they set the standards our families lived by and their ways of life rubbed off--if not on Philo himself, certainly on his children. And to an extent, even on us descendants today. Now, because our Averills were among the early pioneers in those locales, the beginnings of two other settlements are described, being Rock Creek (later called Hire) and Hillsgrove (later called Tennessee which also included Colchester). The Averill genealogy says our family lived in Tennessee, and in a way that is true. Youngest son Allen lived there, and it was the closest village to their homestead in the SE tip of what is now Hire, but Hire TWP was not created till after they were gone. Allen & Norman married Tennessee girls.

The first settler came in 1830, so let us start with the Big Snow. It must have been a DOOZEY. We wonder what natural phenomenon brought it about and hope it never, ever happens again. "The snow began to fall the night of 29 December and continued for three days and nights until it reached an average depth of about four feet, drifting as high as 18 or 20 feet. The depth remained at four feet about three months. All kinds of wild game starved to death. Before the snow fell the deer were fat as could be, but before it passed away they were so poor they were not fit to eat. Wild turkeys fell from the limbs of trees.

"A man in Macomb related that it took his wife about three hours to shovel the snow from their cabin while he, with a good-sized family, did not yet have his corn gathered, so he went out and, wherever he could spy a stalk of corn above the snow, pulled off the ears, gathering enough for the day. There were no mills, so each family pounded its own corn with mortar and pestle. A few had graters which worked better. A fire was built up early each morning to boil a pot of water into which corn was thrown to boil until it softened. It was then taken out to make good wholesome bread. That, plus what game they they could get, sustained them through the winter." (Diets like that lead to pellagra.)

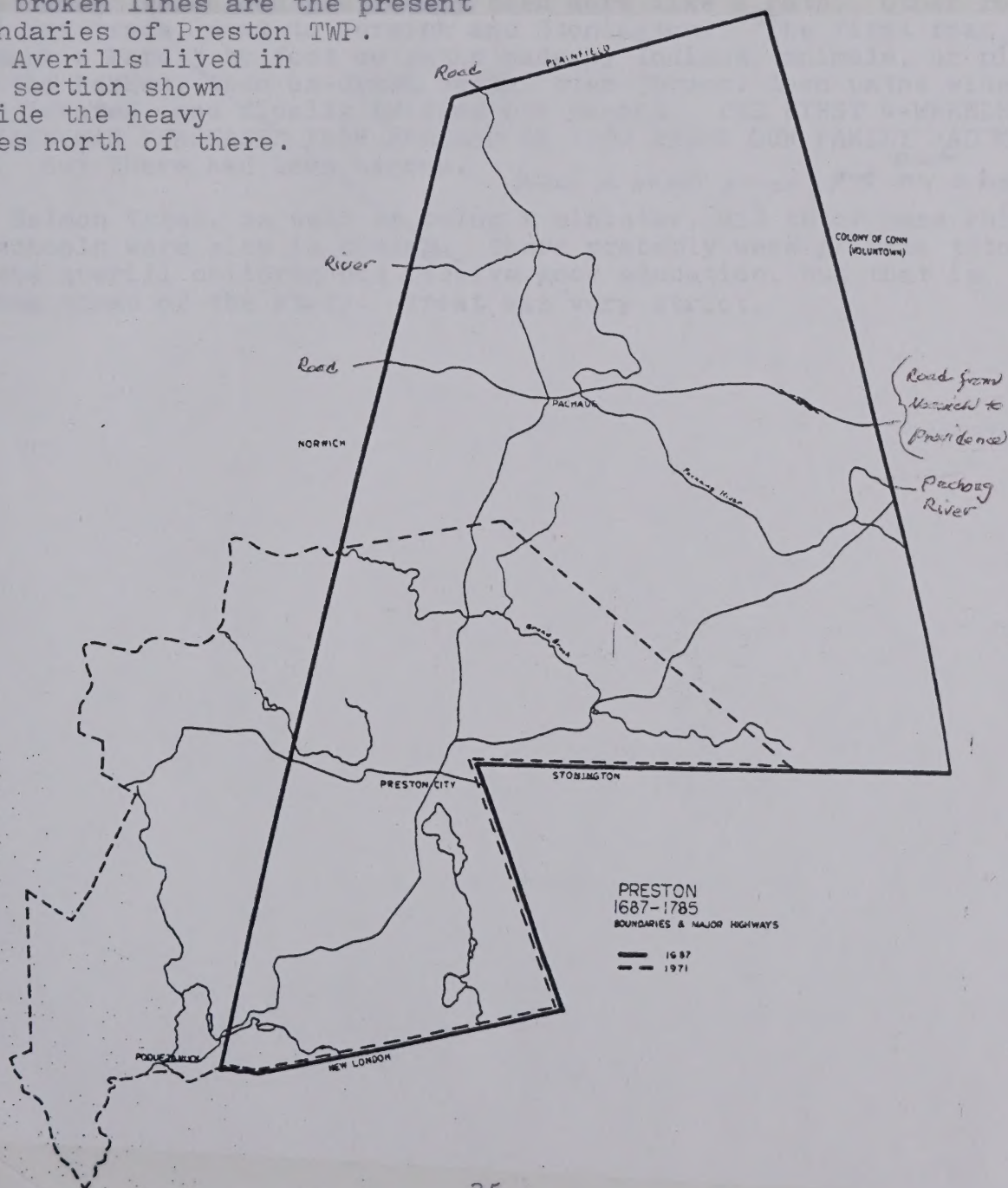
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AVERILL FAMILY

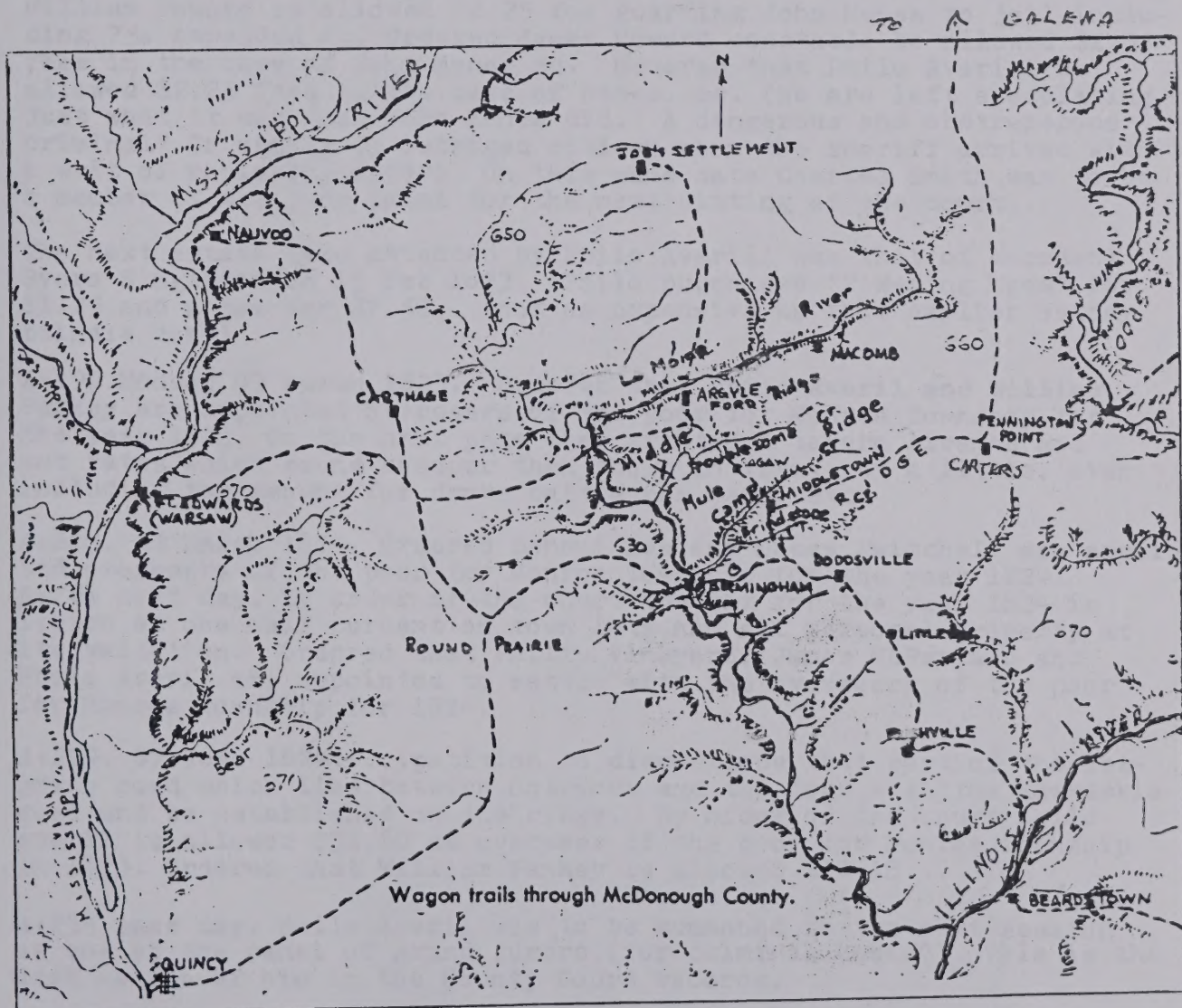
The first few temporary ministers were boarded by settlers; a Mr. Hale was there a few years. "In 1693 a tax was laid to build a meetinghouse and work started. It was 35 futte long, 25 futte wide and 16 futte between the joynts," plain, crudely constructed with a steep roof and few windows. Each family furnished its own bench to sit on. (This would have been the church Thomas and Isaac Averill attended for the first few years, though it was quite some distance away. The little map on this page shows how far it was from Pachoa to Preston City.) Other arrangements for a rectory and a minister followed, and Rev. Salmon Treat was ordained in 1698. Thomas Averill's wife joined in 1703--records do not show when the others did.

The broken lines are the present boundaries of Preston TWP. Our Averills lived in the section shown inside the heavy lines north of there.



AVERILL FAMILY

One of the first "acts of our County Commissioners was a request that the authorities of that county furnish them a list of taxes assessed for the coming year, which request was at once complied with." Carter's Settlement, the first in the county, was started in 1826 by William Carter (who before long moved on to Missouri) and Riggs Pennington, first Justice of the Peace, who also moved on in a few years, winding up in Texas. In 1827 settlers there built a little 18x20 foot two-story blockhouse. The upper story projected out four feet past the lower one on all sides, to avoid being set afire by the Indians. Holes were made in the floor so that an Indian who had come for incendiary purposes could be "gently tapped on the head." Luckily no conflict occurred, but its very presence prevented that. Tribesmen were numerous and not kindly disposed. This was in the SE part of the county bordering Schuyler. Job's Settlement was begun the next spring.



Wagons being heavily loaded, drivers stuck to ridges to avoid being mired in mud.

AVERILL FAMILY

Because the copy is a little hard to read, some details are that \$175.00 was paid in full. The legal description of the property was "60 acres of land, north part of the Southwest quarter, Section 13, Township of Range 8 beginning at the SW corner of said quarter section, thence running South 60 poles, East 160 poles, thence North 60 poles, thence West to the place of beginning. That is the place on our plat map where the fairgrounds were later located.

Record Book A:169 (March 1822?) Ordered Philo Averill, Moses Twitchell and James D. Scott be appointed Judges of Election in Monroe Township for one year and the Elections to be holden at the house of Moses Twitchell.

A:174. 04 June 1822. Ordered that Phillip Vineyard be allowed \$2 for guarding John Hennee to jail including 50¢ expended, etc. Ordered John Ginger be allowed \$1.50 for guarding John Hennee &c. Ordered William Howard be allowed \$2.25 for guarding John Hennee to jail including 75¢ expended &c. Ordered James Howard constable be allowed \$2.35 fees in the case of John Hennee &c. Ordered that Philo Averill be allowed \$2.25 fees in the case of Hennee, &c. (We are left speculating just what it was that John Hennee did. A dangerous and obstreperous criminal? Or simply an outraged citizen when the sheriff arrived with a writ of replevin, or???) On this same date Charles Smith was to be a member of the jury panel for the next sitting of the court.

The next estate sale attended by Philo Averill was that of decedent Syers Singleton on 15 Feb 1823. Philo purchased "2 Weding Hoes" for \$1.25 and a cow for \$7.50. (not as expensive as that earlier estray brindle cow?)

A:192 Monday 03 March 1823. Ordered that Philo Averil and William Pankey are appointed overseers of the poor for Monroe Township for the year 1823. On the next page they granted a tavern license and set rates which sound cheaper than those in Vevay, by a little, even including the amount for drove cattle per head, etc.

A:223. 02 March 1824. Ordered Benoni Lee and Moses Twitchell are appointed overseers of the poor for Monroe Township for the year 1824.

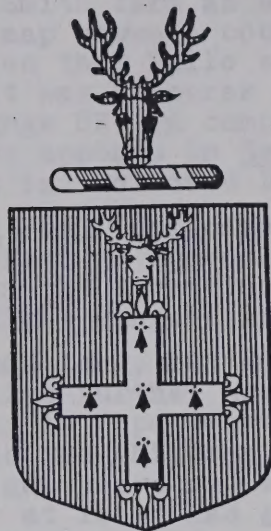
A:224 next day. By order of the court the tax for the year 1824 is levied at one half percent on town lots and all personal property at its valuation. Ordered that Philip Vineyard, James McFarland and Philo Averil are appointed to settle with the overseers of the poor for Monroe Township for 1824.

A:229. 07 June 1824. ...petition to discontinue that part of the Belgrade road which lies between Golconda and the fork with the Kaskaskia road and be established on the ridge. By order of the court Philo Averil is allowed \$31.60 as overseer of the poor for Monroe Township in 1823. Ordered that William Pankey is allowed \$10.18...

A:235 same day. Philo Averil was to be summoned to the next session as one of the panel of grand jurors (for criminal cases?). This is the last we see of him in the County Court records.

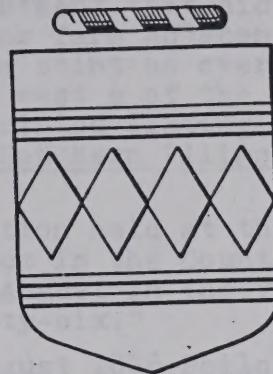
AVERILL FAMILY

Introduction--3



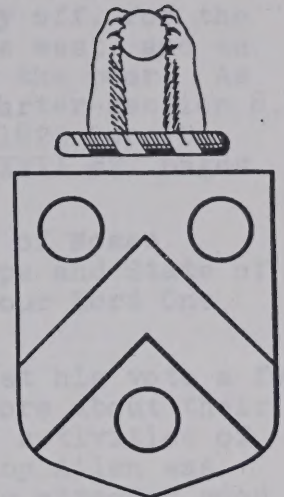
AVERILL

Arms: Gules, a cross fleury ermine, in chief a buck's head of the field.
Crest: A buck's head cabossed as in the field.
(See A602-C1032, vol. 1).



AVERELL

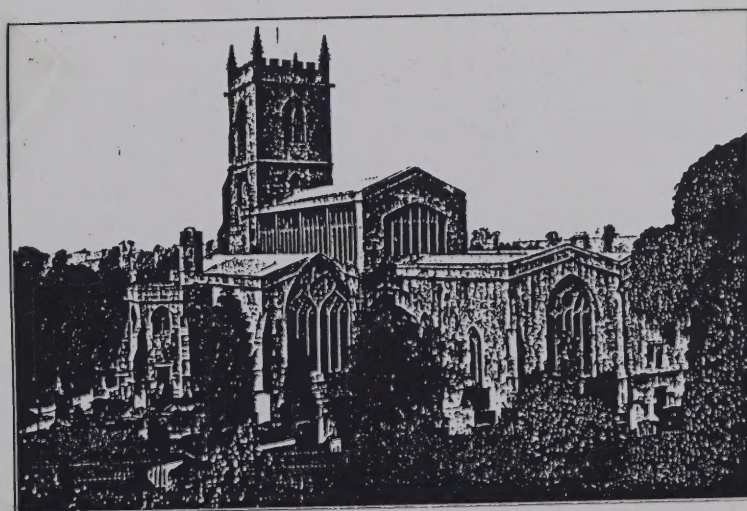
Arms: Argent, four lozenges in fess between two bars jumelles gules.
(See A602).



AVERY

Arms: Gules, a chevron between three bezants or.
Crest: Two lions' gambes or, supporting a bezant.
Motto: Fidelis.
(See A496-A497-A499-A499a-A502-A610-A612-A618-C1032, vol. 7-N205, vol. 51).

Above are three Averill/Averell/Avery Family coats of Arms, in addition to those on the cover.



PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY, CHIPPING NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE

AVERILL FAMILY

One is inclined to wonder whether they lived at this location all along using the Smith farm as an investment that did not pay off, for the 1876 plat map shows a county poor farm adjacent to the west, and we have learned that Philo served a stint as overseer of the poor. As shown, that was 80 acres in the west $\frac{1}{2}$ of the west quarter-section 8, TWP 12S Range 8E. (A complete printed listing of all 1825 Pope Co. landholders appears in Saga of Southern Illinois Vol XVII #2, pages 7-12) This is followed by :

"To Wit A Pool book of an Election held at the house of Moses TWITSELLS Esq. in Munroe precinct in the County of Pope and State of Illinois on the Seventh day of August In the year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty-six."

The list was long, but on 07 August 1826 Philo had cast his vote a few hundred miles further north. We would like to know more about their 7-year stay in Pope County, and especially more about activities of Rebecah and the children who were growing fast--baby Allen was already eight years old when they left. Probably they attended good schools or at least had good tutors in that neighborhood, perhaps superior to that in the next locality.

Realistically we are lucky to have found this much, a sort of continuity with his childhood, for though Philo's adult world was far different than his boyhood home in Connecticut, we have seen him following in his father Moses' footsteps by striving to be a good community citizen, holding government positions, etc. Moses was only 60 when he died. Philo was nearly 58 when he moved to a very new frontier community again, with three young sons and two teenaged daughters he wanted to rear to adulthood and give a firm foundation. Did he really realize what he was getting into? Maybe. Though vigorous he was no spring chicken. The boys were healthy and hard workers. Prairie land up in Sangamon County had very recently been surveyed, One presumes the local squatters had selected the very best and paid for it. The tall grass grew plump cattle, though breaking the deep-rooted sod was not yet possible--plows that strong had not yet been invented. Gardens would have to grow in amongst deadened trees at first. The climate was more invigorating to a Yankee like himself.

How did they get there? It is barely conceivable they could have taken a keelboat up the Mississippi then up the Illinois River, then up the Sangamon which in the earliest days was considered navigable. In 1832 a steamboat made it all the way to Springfield before becoming mired, but the latter river is capricious. Abraham Lincoln's father used a flatboat on it in 1830. But though wide enough in wet seasons, it never made good traveling. Brush, timber and debris at its mouth make it impassable nowadays, even for canoes. They didn't go that way.

The way first American Bottom settlers got to the Bottom from Kentucky was to cross at a ferry at Shawneetown and go to Kaskaskia using an old Indian trail leading there. With comings and goings for over 30 years, by 1825 it was a well-used road. Our Illinois survey map shows it going to Edwardsville near the mouth of the Missouri River.

AVERILL FAMILY

The family's next move was farther north, to the prairie country of Sangamon County, Illinois. They did not remain in the area very long, but we do want to know what their lives were like when they were there. At the time of the move Philo was 58, Rebecah 51, Henry 16½, Charlotte 15, Eliza 13, Norman 10, and Allen 8. No evidence has been found yet that the families of Electa Hurd or Melissa Haskell were with them, or that other Pope County people came with them. By 1825 many people had heard of the rich soil of that yet rather primitive new area, and that the government had not yet sold all of the claims. Being originally from the north, Philo and Rebecca realized the climate there would be healthier. Another small recession occurred about that time, but we don't know if it affected them so much as their pioneer spirit. They did choose a spot with good Methodist neighbors nearby.

When Illinois had become a state in 1818, only the required 40,000 (if it was really that many) people were living there, almost all of them near the rivers in the southern part of the state. A few were along the Wabash, some--like the Averills--near the Ohio, but the bulk of them near the Mississippi. The last set consisted of two groups, the original French with those who joined them on the Kaskaskia and Cahokia rivers, and the mostly Southern squatters who had settled on the rich floodplain called the American Bottom, commencing right after the Revolutionary War.

Perhaps this map of Illinois in 1822 will demonstrate that the Averill Family really did seek the wilderness again. It shows all of the surveyed areas, consisting of those just described and the military Bounty Lands set aside for War of 1812 veterans. Actually the Bounty Lands could not be settled for several more years because the Sauk and Fox Indians there were much too fierce. The Kickapoo occupied most of the unsurveyed land, though under a treaty signed in 1819 they agreed to consider moving to Missouri. Both sets of Indians had supported the British in the War of 1812 and bitterly hated the settlers. A few of the largest Kickapoo villages are shown on the map. Though the capitol had been moved to Vandalia, still on the Kaskaskia River, settlement inland that far north had occurred only sparsely. Nearly everything north of Vandalia was unsettled, even in 1825 when the Averills moved farther north.

This map omits one important element--Sangamon County was surveyed in 1821 and made into a county with its seat at Springfield. Maybe the mapmaker considered it unimportant since only about 500 people lived there. To find the site of Springfield on the map, locate the Sangamon River, easy to spot on the white part of the map. Next locate the Sugar River flowing into it from the south. Springfield was slightly to the lower left of the juncture. Everything to the north was unbroken Indian country, and so was most of everything south nearly to Vandalia. In the spring of 1826, the Averill Family was living in sort of an "island" of 500 or so white settlers surrounded by wilderness.

AVERILL FAMILIES

As noted before, Philo and his family evidently became Methodists back in Indiana. The popular evangelist shown below must have affected them greatly. He preached in Indiana & Kentucky before moving to present Cartwright TWP, Sangamon Co.

Peter Cartwright



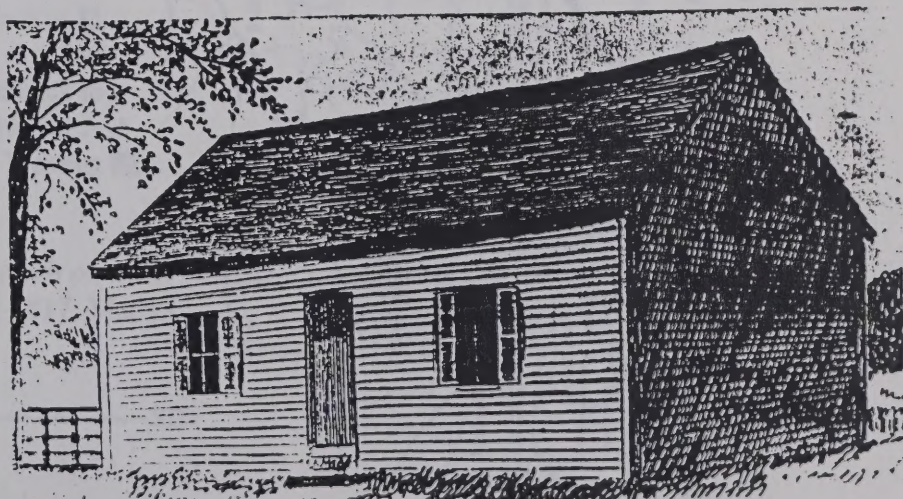
Courtesy, SVC, Lincoln Library

Peter Cartwright (1785-1872) American Methodist clergyman known as the "backwoods preacher," was born in Amherst Co. VA and moved with his parents to Kentucky where he was converted at a camp meeting in 1801 from the "evil" pleasures of card playing, horse racing, and dancing, to God and Methodism. The tall, brawny Cartwright was a natural orator who took on the devil as his personal enemy. At age 18 he was a full fledged circuit riding preacher. He preached as if "the devil had no rights and never apologized for his attacks on Satan's kingdom." At his services they sang songs like,

"A Methodist is my name
And I hope to live and die the same.
Oh, whip the devil around the stump
And hit him a crack at every jump."

He had an unmitigated hatred of slavery which prompted him to settle at Richland Creek, Sangamon County IL, with his wife and family in 1823. Besides preaching he engaged in local politics, even running unsuccessfully against Abraham Lincoln for congress. Philo and Rebecah Averill and the children must have listened to Rev. Cartwright many times, both in Sangamon County and in Hillsgrove in McDonough County, for he preached in both places many times. This man wrote a very interesting autobiography.

This is a picture of the courthouse at Cantrall where Justice of the Peace George Power presided during the first half of the 19th century. Abraham Lincoln presented many cases there in his early career as a lawyer.



Sources used for both sketches--"Prairie of Promise - Springfield & Sangamon County, IL" - Edward J. Russo (1983) and articles in American Peoples Encyclopedia.

Averill



Libby Berry Grimm
713 West Calhoun St
Macomb, Illinois
61455-1334

Phone (309) 833 - 5498
e-mail: lgrimm@macomb.com

19 June 1999

Norma Zaniewski
8924 W Plaifield Ave
Greenfield, Wisconsin
53228-2230

This is in answer to your letter of 29 May 1999, wanting proof that Norman C Averill is the son of Philo Averill. I wish I could tell you good news. I have researched this family previous for 2 other persons. But I decided that I would not look at previous notes, but would start from beginning for you.

There is no probate records for Philo or Rebecca Averill in McDonough County.

Next, I went to the Grantee/Grantor indexes. These include transaction that occurred prior to McDonough County's formation and were copied from Schuyler County's records.

Bk	page	Grantee	Grantor	date	descript	price
A	134	Philo Averill of Sangamon Co	Sam'l Bogart	1 MY 1832	S 1/2, SW 1/4 Sec 36, 6N, 4W	\$150
A	216	Norman C Averill of McDonough Co	? Didn't copy?	8 AP 1834	N 1/2, SW 1/4, Sec 36, 6N, 4W	\$80
J	15	Henry & Norman Averill	Philo & Rebecca Averill	14 MY 1842	N 1/2, E 1/2, SW 1/4, sec 36, 6N, 4W, 40 acres S end, W 1/2, SW 1/4 of Sec 36, 32 acre 40A S 1/2, E 1/2, of SW 1/4, sec 36, 6N, 4W 48A N part, W 1/2, SW 1/4 of sec 36	

Price of total transaction was \$500

I reread this deed to be sure I was not missing something. They all were from McDonough County. Then I went back to indexes to see if I had missed a transaction from Norman to Philo in between A-216 and J-15. Another complication for me is the indexes are stored at IRAD on the campus of Western Illinois University and the deed books are in the courthouse down town.

In the past I have done research on the Averill family for Marty Hiatt, 39425 Tollhouse Road, Lovettville, Virginia, 20180-1817. Marty is a very though researcher and might have the proof you are looking for.

Research time -----1 hour-----\$10. I am returning your check.

Sincerely,

Libby

All this land is in Hire Twp and Argyle Church and Cemetery is in this land

6 July 1999

Mrs. Libby Grimm
713 West Calhoun St.
Macomb IL 61455-1334

Dear Libby

Thanks so much for the land information you sent on June 19th. Of course I am disappointed not to have received written proof that Norman Averill was Philo's son. I did write to Marty Hiatt as you suggested and am ever hopeful.

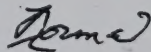
But your findings are very interesting and, having found a good genealogist, I'm not ready to let you off the hook just yet! Enclosed is a new check for \$25.00, including the ten I owe you. Would you please send me photocopies of the Grantee/Grantor Index entries you quoted. (Book A pages 134 and 216 and Book J page 15) And when you get a chance, copy the corresponding courthouse records.

While you are at it, could you please check out any other Averill records you may see concerning all family members. It is said, for instance, that Norman's older half-sister Electa Averill was married to Nehemiah Herd (or Hurd) and lived near Tennessee (which also might be Hire TWP like the others). Her husband was a Methodist minister-- in the old days such men did a bit of evangelizing here and there, but I've always wondered what became of Electa. Did they own land? Another sister, Charlotte Baker Averill, was married to Nicholas Royal Teas (or Tays). Do the records show them? That last couple eventually wound up in Kansas, as did my Norman.

Brother Henry, as you may know, took the old Oregon Trail to the Willamette Valley. I've done some correspondence in the past with that branch of the family. Often we learn what we need to know by studying other family members, as I'm sure you already know.

All this may cost more than the extra \$15.00, so be sure to bill me for the balance. I hope your ailing family member is better. You sound like a nice lady.

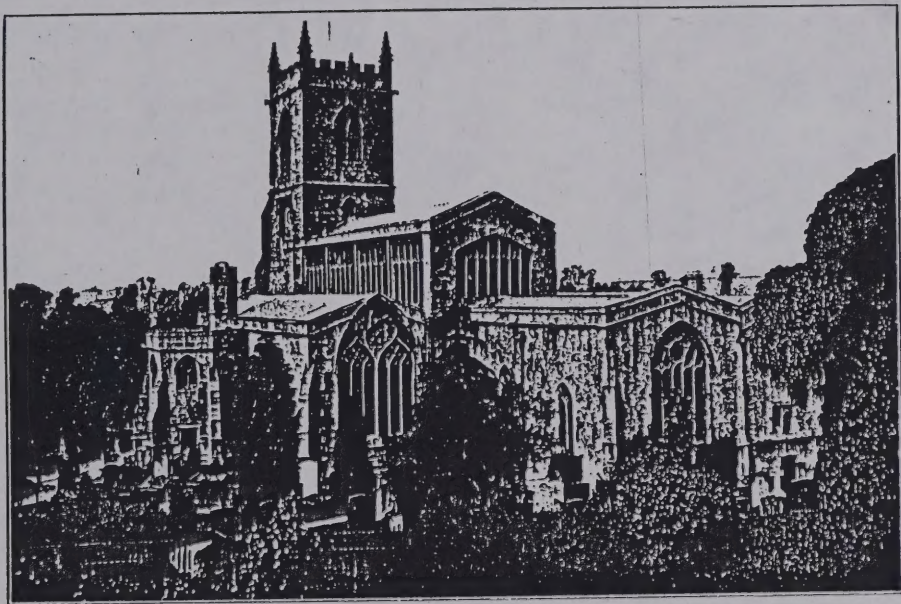
Sincerely,



encl--check

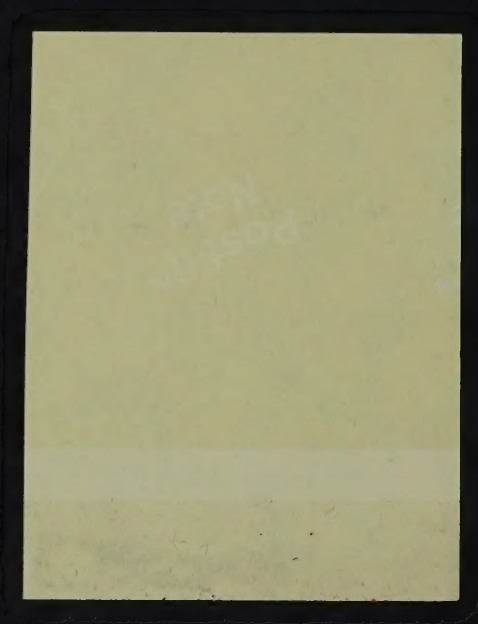
Norma Zaniewski
8924 W. Plainfield Ave.
Greenfield, WI 53228-2230





PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY, CHIPPING NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE

Shrink to $\frac{1}{2}$ colour size



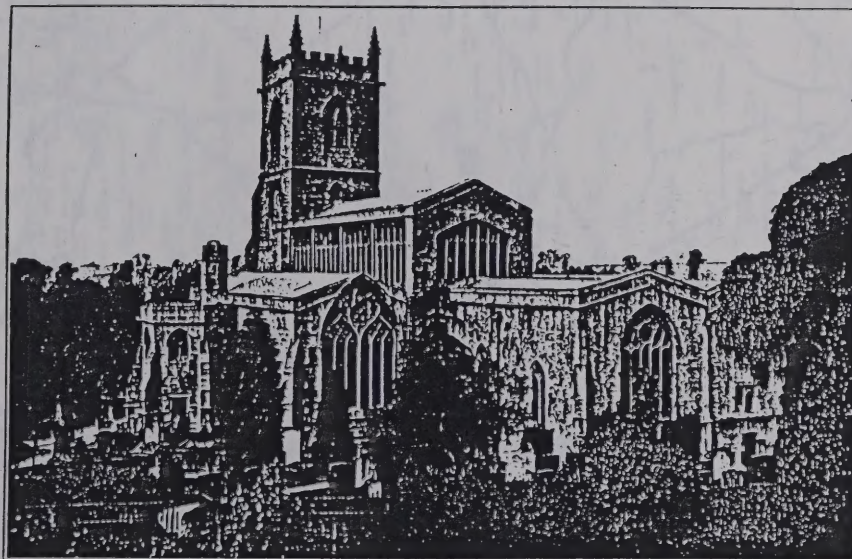
Edinburgh
Dunbar

SCOTLAND

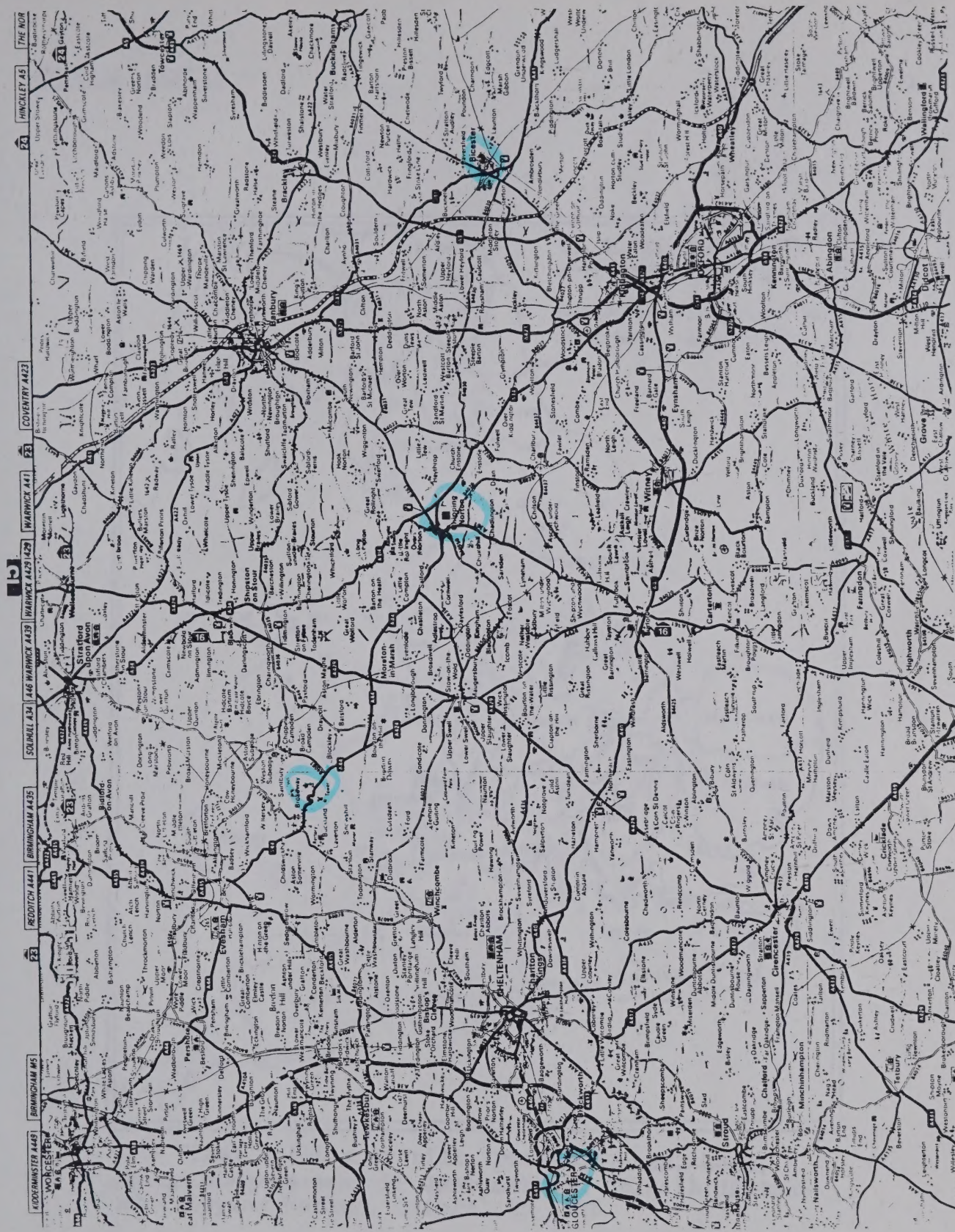
0 20 40 60 80 100 miles
0 50 100 150 kms

ENGLAND AT THE TIME OF THE CIVIL WAR (about 1642)

Northumberland
Newcastle
Durham
Cumberland
Westmorland
York
York
Hull
Lincoln
Nottingham
Leicester
Rutland
Northampton
Huntingdon
Cambridge
Norfolk
Suffolk
Essex
Hertford
Hants
Sussex
Kent
Dover
London
Oxford
Warwick
Stafford
Derby
Chester
Cheshire
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Worcester
Hereford
Gloucester
Monmouth
Bristol
Wiltshire
Somerset
Devon
Dorset
Plymouth
Cornwall



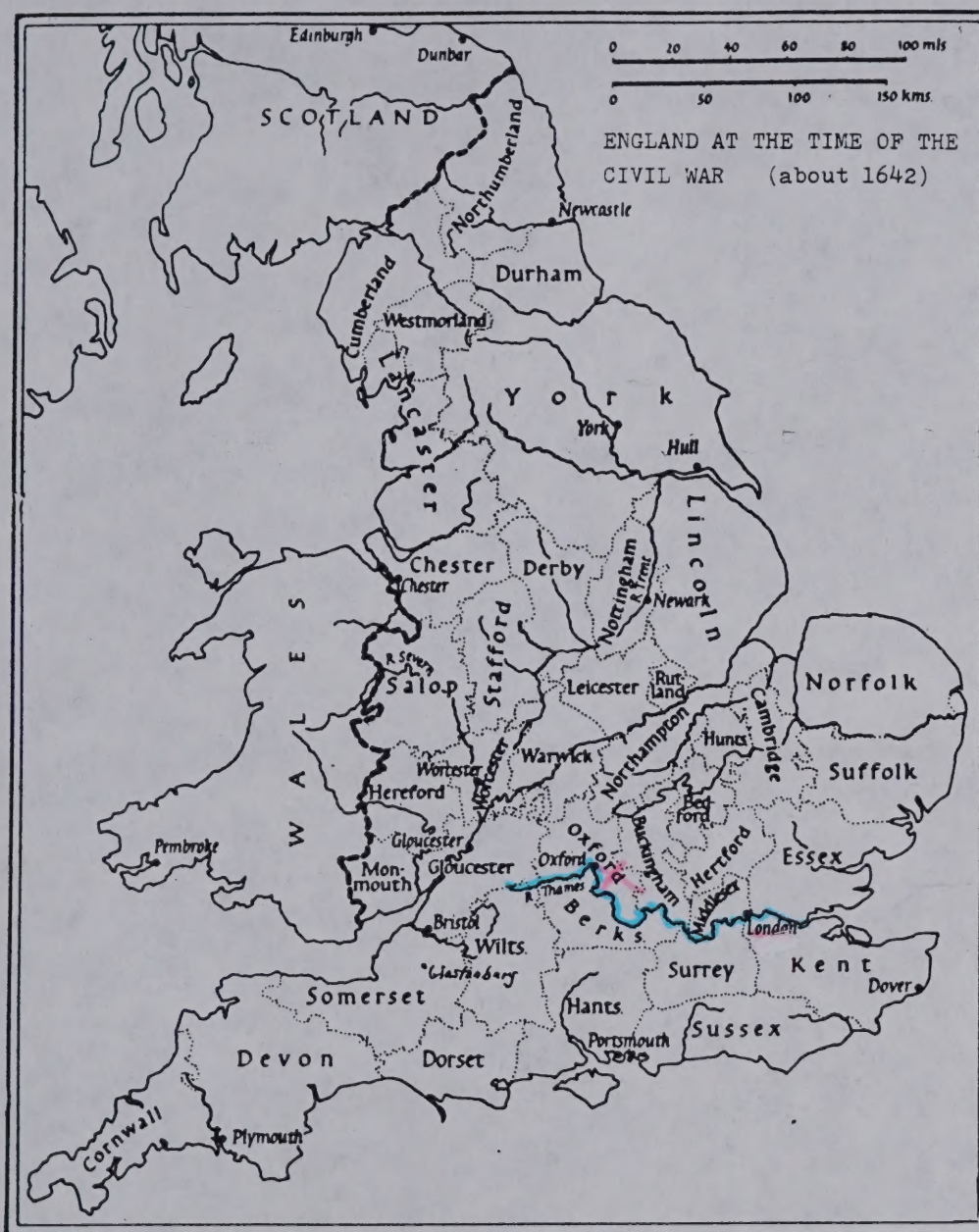
PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY, CHIPPING NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE



AVERILL FAMILY

Introduction--7

Modern highway map of a part of England, showing Chipping Norton, Bicester, Broadway, Hinton-Waldrist and other places associated with the Averill Family. An Averill family at Gloucester (far left) may have carried the blue Averill arms.



The first William Averill, ~~raised at Ash, Kent,~~
~~by Farmingham near London,~~ married Abigail Hinton
at Chipping Norton, Oxford, in 1618.

